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C. CURRENT PENDING CLAIMS

In order to better assist the Examiner with the prosecution of the case, the current

pending claims have been included in their entirety for which reconsideration is requested.

1. (Amended) A method for selectively adjusting a transparency of a displayable object

within a user interface using a flashlight tool, said method comprising the steps of:

~~determining an n-level within a z-order of at least one displayable object from among a plurality of displayable objects distributed within said z-order; and~~

enabling a flashlight tool;

selecting an operating criteria of said flashlight tool, wherein said operating criteria
is operative on all displayable objects of a user interface;

positioning said flashlight tool at a location within a user interface, wherein said
location is independent of another location of at least one displayable object within said
user interface; and

selectively adjusting a transparency level of said at least one displayable object
~~within a~~ within said user interface ~~positioned at said n-level within said z-order~~, such that
said transparency level of said at least one displayable object is selectively adjusted
~~without adjusting said z-order of said plurality of displayable objects distributed within said z-order~~ according to said operating criteria of said flashlight tool.

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2. (Amended) The method for selectively adjusting a transparency of a displayable object according to claim 1, said step of ~~determining an n-level~~ selecting an operating criteria of said flashlight tool further ~~comprising the step of~~ comprises:

receiving a specified user selection of ~~said~~ an n-level within a z-order from among a plurality of displayable objects, as a setting ~~for a~~ for said flashlight tool such that said flashlight tool setting at said n-level is operative on at least one displayable object within said n-level; and

setting said flashlight tool to be operative on said at least one displayable object within said n-level.

3. (Amended) The method for selectively adjusting a transparency of a displayable object according to claim 1, said step of ~~determining an n-level~~ selecting an operating criteria of said flashlight tool further ~~comprising the step of~~ comprises:

~~detecting a position of a slider bar within a z-order listing; and~~

~~determining said n-level of said at least one displayable object association with said position of said slider bar within said z-order listing.~~

receiving a specified user selection of a flashlight beam for setting said flashlight tool such that said flashlight tool is effective on at least one displayable object within a range of said specified flashlight beam;

receiving a specified user selection for setting the intensity of said flashlight beam:

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receiving a specified user selection for setting the shape of said flashlight beam; and

setting said flashlight tool to be operative with said intensity, and with said shape, on said at least one displayable object within said range of said flashlight beam.

4. (Amended) The method for selectively adjusting a transparency of a displayable object according to claim 3, said method further comprising the step of:

~~graphically displaying said z-order listing within said user interface, wherein said z-order listing orders said plurality of displayable objects according to a user-designated criteria.~~

receiving a specified user selection for setting said flashlight beam to effect a varying degree of transparency on said at least one displayable object.

5. (Amended) The method for selectively adjusting a transparency of a displayable object according to ~~claim 3~~ claim 1, said ~~method further comprising the~~ step of selecting the operating criteria of said flashlight tool further comprises:

~~adjusting a transparency of each entry within said z-order listing according to a transparency of each of said plurality of displayable objects.~~

receiving a user selection criteria for said flashlight tool such that said flashlight tool is effective on at least one displayable object that meets said user selection criteria; and

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setting said flashlight tool to be operative on said at least one displayable object that meets said user selection criteria.

6. (Amended) The method for selectively adjusting a transparency of a displayable object according to claim 1, said step of ~~determining an n-level further comprising the step of~~ selectively adjusting a transparency level further comprises:

~~determining a selection of said plurality of displayable objects matching a particular criteria; and~~

~~determining at least one said n-level for said selection of said plurality of displayable objects matching said particular criteria;~~

adjusting a transparency level of said at least one displayable object within said user interface in response to moving said flashlight tool across said user interface.

7. (Amended) The method for selectively adjusting a transparency of a displayable object according to claim 1, said step of ~~selectively adjusting a transparency level~~ positioning said flashlight tool, further comprising ~~the step~~ of:

~~selectively adjusting a transparency level of said at least one displayable object according to a transparency designated for a slider bar indicating said at least one displayable object.~~

receiving a user selection criteria for said flashlight tool such that said flashlight tool is effective on said at least one displayable object that meets said user selection criteria:

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setting said flashlight tool to be operative on said at least one displayable object that meets said user selection criteria;

operating said flashlight tool to locate said at least one displayable object that meets said user selection criteria; and

positioning said flashlight tool at a location over said at least one displayable object that meets said user selection criteria.

8. (Original)   The method for selectively adjusting a transparency of a displayable object according to claim 1, said step of selectively adjusting a transparency level, further comprising the step of:

selectively adjusting a transparency level of said at least one displayable object according to a transparency designated for a flashlight tool positioned to selectively adjust said transparency level of said at least one displayable object.

9. (Amended) A system for selectively adjusting a transparency of a displayable object within a user interface using a flashlight tool, said system comprising:

a graphical user interface;

means for determining an n-level within a z-order of at least one displayable object from among a plurality of displayable objects distributed within said z-order and displayed within said graphical user interface; and

means for enabling a flashlight tool;

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means for selecting an operating criteria of said flashlight tool, wherein said operating criteria is operative on all displayable object of a user interface;

means for positioning said flashlight tool at a location within a user interface wherein said location is independent of another location of at least one displayable object within said user interface; and

means for selectively adjusting a transparency level of said at least one displayable object ~~within a~~ within said user interface ~~positioned at said n-level within said z-order~~, such that said transparency level of said at least one displayable object is selectively adjusted ~~without adjusting said z-order of said plurality of displayable objects distributed within said z-order~~ according to said operating criteria of said flashlight tool.

10. (Amended) The system for selectively adjusting a transparency of a displayable object according to claim 9, said means for ~~determining an n-level~~ selecting the operating criteria of said flashlight tool further comprising:

means for receiving a specified user selection of ~~said~~ an n-level within a z-order from among a plurality of displayable objects, as a setting ~~for a~~ for said flashlight tool, such that said flashlight tool setting at said n-level is operative on at least one displayable object within said n-level; and

means for setting said flashlight tool to be operative on said at least one displayable objects within said n-level.

11. (Amended) The system for selectively adjusting a transparency of a displayable object according to claim 9, said means for ~~determining an n-level~~ selecting the operating criteria of said flashlight tool further comprising:

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~~means for detecting a position of a slider bar within a z- order listing; and~~

~~means for determining said n-level of said at least one displayable object association with said position of said slider bar within said z-order listing.~~

means for receiving a specified user selection of said flashlight beam for setting said flashlight tool such that said flashlight tool is effective on at least one displayable object within a range of said specified flashlight beam;

means for receiving a specified user selection for setting the intensity of said flashlight beam;

means for receiving a specified user selection for setting the shape of said flashlight beam; and

means for setting said flashlight tool to be operative with said intensity, and with said shape, on said at least one displayable object within said range of said flashlight beam.

12. (Amended) The system for selectively adjusting a transparency of a displayable object according to claim 11, ~~wherein said z-order listing orders said plurality of displayable objects according to a user designated criteria~~ further comprising:

means for receiving a specified user selection for setting said flashlight beam to effect a varying transparency of said at least one displayable object.

13. (Amended) The system for selectively adjusting a transparency of a displayable object according to ~~claim 11~~ claim 9, said system further comprising:

~~means for adjusting a transparency of each entry within said z-order listing according to a transparency of each of said plurality of displayable objects.~~

means for receiving a user selection criteria for said flashlight tool such that said flashlight tool is effective on at least one displayable object that meets said user selection criteria; and

means for setting said flashlight tool to be operative on said at least one displayable object that meets said user selection criteria.

14. (Amended) The system for selectively adjusting a transparency of a displayable object according to claim 9, said means for ~~determining an n-level~~ selectively adjusting a transparency level further comprising:

~~means for determining a selection of said plurality of displayable objects matching a particular criteria; and~~
~~means for determining at least one said n-level for said selection of said plurality of displayable objects matching said particular criteria.~~

means for adjusting a transparency level of said at least one displayable object within said user interface in response to moving said flashlight tool across said user interface.

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15. (Amended) The system for selectively adjusting a transparency of a displayable object according to claim 9, said means for selectively adjusting a transparency level further comprising:

~~means for selectively adjusting a transparency level of said at least one displayable object according to a transparency designated for a slider bar indicating said at least one displayable object.~~

means for receiving a user selection criteria for said flashlight tool such that said flashlight tool is effective on at least one displayable object that meets said user selection criteria;

means for setting said flashlight tool to be operative on said at least one displayable object that meets said user selection criteria;

means for operating said flashlight tool to locate said at least one displayable object that meets said user selection criteria; and

means for positioning said flashlight tool at a location over said at least one displayable object that meets said user selection criteria.

16. (Original) The system for selectively adjusting a transparency of a displayable object according to claim 9, said means for selectively adjusting a transparency level further comprising:

means for selectively adjusting a transparency level of said at least one displayable object according to a transparency designated for a flashlight tool positioned to selectively adjust said transparency level of said at least one displayable object.

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17. (Amended) A program for selectively adjusting a transparency of a displayable object within a user interface <u>using a flashlight tool</u>, residing on a computer usable medium having computer readable program code means, said program comprising:

~~means for determining an n-level within a z-order of at least one displayable object from among a plurality of displayable objects distributed within said z-order; and~~

<u>means for enabling a flashlight tool;</u>

<u>means for selecting an operating criteria of said flashlight tool, wherein said operating criteria is operative on all displayable objects of a user interface;</u>

<u>means for positioning said flashlight tool at a location within a user interface wherein said location is independent of another location of at least one displayable object within said user interface; and</u>

means for controlling a transparency level of said at least one displayable object ~~positioned at said n-level within said z-order.~~ <u>within said user interface, such that said transparency level of said at least one displayable object is selectively adjusted according to said operating criteria of said flashlight tool.</u>

18. (Amended) The program for selectively adjusting a transparency of a displayable object according to claim 17, said program further comprising:

means for receiving a specified user selection of ~~said~~ <u>an</u> n-level <u>within a z-order from among said plurality of displayable objects</u> as a setting ~~for a~~ <u>for said</u> flashlight tool

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such that said flashlight tool setting at said n-level is operative on at lest one displayable object within said n-level; and

means for setting said flashlight tool to be operative on said at least one displayable object within said n-level.

19. (Amended) The program for selectively adjusting a transparency of a displayable object according to claim 17, said program further comprising:

~~means for detecting a position of a slider bar within a z-order listing; and~~

~~means for determining said n-level of said at least one displayable object association with said position of said slider bar within said z-order listing.~~

means for receiving a specified user selection of a flashlight beam for setting said flashlight tool such that said flashlight tool is effective on at least one displayable object within a range of said specified flashlight beam;

means for receiving a specified user selection for setting the intensity of said flashlight beam;

means for receiving a specified user selection for setting the shape of said flashlight beam; and

means for setting said flashlight tool to be operative with said intensity, and with said shape, on said at least one displayable object within said range of said flashlight beam.

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20. (Amended) The program for selectively adjusting a transparency of a displayable object according to claim 19, said program further comprising:

~~means for controlling a transparency of each entry within said z-order listing according to a transparency of each of said plurality of displayable objects.~~

means for receiving a user selection criteria for said flashlight tool such that said flashlight tool is effective on said at least one displayable object that meets said user selection criteria; and

means for setting said flashlight tool to be operative on said at least one displayable object that meet said user selection criteria.

21. (Amended) The program for selectively adjusting a transparency of a displayable object according to claim 17, said program further comprising:

~~means for determining a selection of said plurality of displayable objects matching a particular criteria; and~~

~~means for determining at least one said n-level for said selection of said plurality of displayable objects matching said particular criteria.~~

means for adjusting a transparency level of said at least one displayable object within said user interface in response to moving said flashlight tool across said user interface.

22. (Amended) The program for selectively adjusting a transparency of a displayable object according to claim 17, said program further comprising:

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~~means for controlling a transparency level of said at least one displayable object according to a transparency designated for a slider bar indicating said at least one displayable object.~~

means for receiving a user selection criteria for said flashlight tool such that said flashlight tool is effective on at least one displayable object that meets said user selection criteria;

means for setting said flashlight tool to be operative on said at least one displayable objects that meets said user selection criteria;

means for operating said flashlight tool to locate said at least one displayable object that meets said user selection criteria; and

means for positioning said flashlight tool at a location over said at least one displayable object that meets said user selection criteria.

23. (Original) The program for selectively adjusting a transparency of a displayable object according to claim 17, said program further comprising:

means for controlling a transparency level of said at least one displayable object according to a transparency designated for a flashlight tool positioned to selectively adjust said transparency level of said at least one displayable object.

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